

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 15th January 2012

IRTS AGM & Rally 2012

The IRTS AGM, Annual Dinner and Rally this year is hosted by Dundalk Amateur Radio Society at the Fairways Hotel on the weekend of April 21st & 22nd 2012. Please keep your diaries free for this special event in our 80th Anniversary year celebrations. More details to follow.

IRTS Request for Return of Trophies

It is time once again to recall all trophies presented at the 2011 IRTS, AGM in Limerick.

Trophies and Cups can be returned to the IRTS Stand at the Phoenix Radio Club Rally in Coolmine on Sunday 12th February. or to any IRTS Committee Member before end of February 2012.

This will allow for engraving to be done and allow for repairs if necessary.

Early return will be appreciated. Peter EI4HX at ei4hxperimental /at/ eircom /dot/net

Nominations For Awards for IRTS Trophies.

The time is here again for nominations for the several awards for IRTS Trophies that are required from within the membership, this includes the awards for, 1. Service to the Society or to Amateur Radio. Awards in this category can be to members or non-members.

2 Awards for other achievements.

Awards in this category [2] include the 4 and 6 Meter Shields, the SWL Award, and the awards for Quality Construction Projects. These are confined to members only.

When considering your nominations, please refer to previous successful winners as included in www.irts.ie/cgi/awards.cgi

Nominations may be from Clubs or Individuals, must be by post or e-mail, and can be forwarded to the Awards Committee Members, Pat EI2HX and Jim EI4HH, or to

Peter Grant EI4HX, Chair of Awards Committee, QTHR, or by e-mail to ei4hxperimental /at/ eircom /dot/ net

Closing date for nominations is 29th February 2012.

IRTS 80th Anniversary

IRTS will be celebrating its 80th anniversary this year 2012. Details of a worldwide contest – CQIR – to take place on Saint Patrick's Day, Saturday 17th March 2012 have just been announced. Full rules and information are available at www.irts.ie/cqir or by email to cqir /at/ irts / dot/ie

New VHF - UHF Band Plan

Band Plans for amateur radio frequencies are revised from time to time following international consultations with users and special interest groups. The new Region 1 Band Plan for VHF and UHF frequencies came into effect on 1st January this year. The biggest changes are in the 6 metre band - with new beacon sub-bands and a number of new "centre of activity" frequency allocations. The revision in the 6 metre band plan is designed to give more bandwidth to CW and SSB users, while recognising increased activity levels in the new digital modes.

The revised Band Plan for the 6 metre, 4 metre, 2 metre and 70cms bands can be downloaded from the downloads page of the IRTS web site. Bear in mind that the 4 metre allocation in EI does not cover the full extent of the 70.0 MHz to 70.5 MHz band plan contained in the IARU document; a note showing the EI allocation has been added to the document which is on our downloads page.

Those operating on frequencies above 70cms can see the relevant band plans in the VHF Managers Handbook, which is available on the IARU Region 1 web site. Again, it is important to note the EI frequency allocations, which can differ from the limits shown on the band plan pages.

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group (SEARG)

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group's APRS node and weather station is back up and running having been off-air for a time due to sensor problems. It is now located at the Waterford City River Rescue HQ which is on the river Suir in Waterford City. The output from it can be viewed on www.aprs.fi, callsign is EI2WCP-2. Data (including

graphs) are also available on the clubs web site at www.searg.com/weather.php The club would like to thank Waterford City River Rescue for hosting the equipment.

The next meeting of South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Monday 30th of January at 8:30 p.m. in the Roanmore GAA centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford and all are welcome to attend. The meeting will be preceded by a committee meeting at 8:00 p.m., committee members are asked to attend.

For latest news from the group, visit www.searg.com and you can also follow South Eastern Amateur Radio Group on Facebook and Twitter.

South Dublin Radio Club

South Dublin radio club has returned after the X-mas break and there will be a number of talks in January

On the 17th January Joe EI7GY will give a talk on "The competitive side of Amateur Radio, including the DXCC programme and contesting"

Two weeks later on Tuesday the 31st January Colin McKeeman will give a talk on aeronautical radio communications on the North Atlantic and Shanwick

Visitors as always are welcome

Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club

As promised in previous issues the Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club can confirm the activation of the club callsign MN0VFW in support of the charitable RNLI SOS Week. The Club should be active on the HF bands between 11.00 and 16.00hrs GMT on Saturday 21st and between 10.00 and 15.00hrs GMT on Sunday 22nd January 2012. Thanks to the kind permission of Nigel Sands, 2i0 GLY, the Club will be operating from the shores of Lough Neagh at 'Sands Marine and Leisure', Kinnego Marina, Oxford Island, Lurgan, Northern Ireland, BT66 6NJ. As with all Mid Ulster events visitors are more than welcome to call in person and experience some of the Club's legendary hospitality.

The Club will also be holding an informal radio, computer and electronics 'bring and buy sale/coffee morning' on Saturday 4th February 2012 at Drumgor Resource Centre, Drumgor Road, Craigavon, BT65 5DL. Doors open at 11.00hrs, closing again at 14.30hrs. This is the ideal opportunity for individuals to offer for sale those items that have been cluttering the shack, piling up on the computer desk and filling the junk

box. Floor space is available to members and non-members alike. Contact Brian Mi0TGO at [muarc.secretary /at/ yahoo.co.uk](mailto:muarc.secretary/at/yahoo.co.uk) for further details.

Please refer to our website at www.muarc.com for lots more Club and amateur radio information.

Shannon Basin Radio Club

The Shannon Basin Radio Club will be holding its AGM on the 27 January 2012 at 8.30pm in Hannons Hotel Roscommon. All members are requested to attend and all newcomers are welcome to attend. For more info please see www.shannonbasinradioclub.com

Limerick Radio Club

The Annual General Meeting of Limerick Radio Club will be hold on Wednesday 8 February 2012 in the Limerick Institute of Technology at 7.30pm and all paid up members are requested to attend.

Rally: Limerick Radio Club rally will be held on Sunday March 11 2012 at the Radisson Blue Hotel on the Ennis Road, Limerick. Doors open at 11am and all the usual traders will attend. Bring and Buy tables can be ordered from Dermot Gleeson EI2GT.

Fermanagh Amateur Radio Lunch

Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club members gather for their annual winter lunch today, Sunday 15 January, at the Hunting Lodge, Irvinestown, in North Fermanagh. This happy family affair includes wives and children – there are two infant high chairs ordered. Chat on the year past will feature the Club station's award in June's 80 metre contest and Jamie 2i0MFB's award in the summer 2 metre contest. Jamie is 18 this month. Bob Mi6RAX also has a big birthday soon, his 80th. This year's big event is the thirty-first Lough Erne Rally at the SHARE Centre, in south Fermanagh, on Sunday 1 April - a date that is very easy to remember.

DX News

Serge UV5EVJ who was active as 5X1VJ from Uganda last year is now due to start a

four month stay with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Katanga in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. At the time of writing his callsign was not known but look out for him with a 9Q call until early May.

An unusual prefix is on the air for all of 2012 from the Philippines. To celebrate their 50th Anniversary the Philippine Amateur Radio League will use the call 4G0LD. QSLs go via the DU bureau.

A multi-national team will operate from the Pacific island of Pitcairn from 20 January until 4 February. They will use the callsign VP6T. QSL Manager is G3TXF. Pitcairn Island is famous as the home of the descendants of the Bounty mutineers. One of these is Tom Christian who was active as VP6TC.

‘Practical Wireless’ is celebrating its 80th year of publication this year and the Editor Rob Mannion G3XFD/EI5IW will operate the special call GB80PW on publication day each month. Look for the call on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Six operators from Holland/Belgium will activate the call TN2T from the Congo from 22-31 January. They hope to have three stations on 160 – 10m on SSB, CW and RTTY. QSL Manager is M0URX.

Items for inclusion in next week’s Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to “newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie” for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news maybe telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday’s bulletin.

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